

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6269

E.O. 116522: GDS

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJECT: ORGANIZATION FOR NATO SATCOM PLANNING

1. IN ITS OCTOBER 1974 MEETING, THE NATO JOINT C-E COMMITTEE (NJCEC) REQUESTED THE JOINT C-E WORKING GROUP (JCEWG) TO STUDY AND REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:

A. THE FUTURE ROLES OF THE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS CONTINGENCY PLANNING GROUP (SCCPG) AND THE MARITIME SATCOM INTEROPERABILITY WORKING GROUP (MSIWG).

B. THE MOST SUITABLE WAY TO DEAL WITH RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR COORDINATING FUTURE NATO AND NATIONAL DEFENSE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.

2. AT ITS MEETING ON NOV 4, 1974, THE JCEWG DECIDED THAT THE ACTIONS IN LARA 1A AND B, ABOVE, SHOULD FIRST BE UNDERTAKEN BY A SUB-GROUP WITH MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE UK, US, NICSMA, AND THE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS (MNCS). US REP TO JCEWG (GENTRY) AGREED. MISSION WILL PROVIDE US REPRESENTATION ON THE SUB-GROUP.

3. MISSION PROPOSES FOLLOWING AS FOUNDATION OF US POSITION FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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SUB-GROUP PARTICIPATION:

A. A MULTINATIONAL GROUP REPORTING TO NJCEC SHOULD HAVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING FUTURE DEFENSE SATCOM SYSTEM

PLANNING. NATIONS WITH NATIONAL DEFENSE SATCOM SYSTEMS, NICSMA, AND THE MNCS SHOULD BE INVITED TO PROVIDE REPRESENTATIVES. GENERALLY STATED, THIS GROUP WOULD PROPOSE ENVELOPE CHARACTERISTICS OF FUTURE NATO SATCOM SYSTEMS, BASED ON PLANNED SYSTEMS OF NATIONS AND ON REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED ON THE NATO SYSTEM.

B. DG NICSMA SHOULD RETAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NATO SATCOM SYSTEMS WITHIN POLICY GUIDANCE OF THE NJCEC. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE MULTINATIONAL GROUP, INCLUDING ENVELOPE CHARACTERISTICS, SHOULD BE THE BASIS ON WHICH THE NJCEC DEVELOPS ITS POLICY GUIDANCE.

C. THE MULTINATIONAL GROUP SHOULD ADDRESS INTEROPERABILITY OF FUTURE SYSTEMS. NICSMA MAY ADDRESS INTEROPERABILITY OF EXISTING AND NEAR-FUTURE SATCOM SYSTEMS AS IT AFFECTS NICS IMPLEMENTATION.

D. THE PRESENT SCCPG INTENDS TO PREPARE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR CONTINGENCY USE OF SATELLITES FOR THE POST-1975 PERIOD. DETAILED CONTINGENCY PLANNING WITHIN THE PROVISIONS OF THIS AND EARLIER MOU SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO NICSMA AND THE NICS CENTRAL OPERATING AUTHORITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES.

4. NICSMA REPS (INCLUDING DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL, LTG KISSINGER) ADVOCATE RETENTION BY NICSMA OF FULL RANGE OF SATCOM SYSTEM PLANNING. REPS OF SOME OTHER INVOLVED ACTIVITIES (RICHTER AND JACKSON OF SHAPE, MELICK OF SACLANT, VAN DER WILLIGEN OF INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND MILNE OF CANADA) FAVOR LIMITING NICSMA'S ROLE. PRIMARY REASON CITED IS THAT CONCERN WITH LONG- RANGE PLANNING WOULD DIVERT NICSMA'S MEAGER RESOURCES FROM CURRENT PROBLEMS AND PROJECTS. MISSION SUBSCRIBES TO THIS REASON AND ALSO BELIEVES THAT A MULTINATIONAL GROUP CHAIRED BY INTERNATIONAL STAFF MEMBER CAN ACHIEVE MORE THAN CAN A GROUP SUBORDINATE TO NICSMA. IF SUBORDINATE TO NICSMA, THE GROUP WOULD IN EFFECT BE AN ADVISORY BODY TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL. IF SUBORDINATE DIRECTLY TO THE NJCEC, THE BODY WOULD BE A FORUM FOR RECONCILING  
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REQUIREMENTS, CAPABILITIES, AND OBJECTIVES AMONG THE NATIONS, NICSMA, AND THE MNCS (THE CHIEF USERS). IN THIS LATTER POSITION, THE GROUP EFFECTIVELY COULD RECOMMEND POLICY.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: CONCURRENCE IN MISSION PROPOSALS.  
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